

# 18 Creative Ways to Say “No”!

1. That’s not an option.
2. I am unwilling....
3. Say it in a funny way, i.e. “Never in a million trillion years!”
4. Sing, “no, no, no.”
5. That’s not appropriate.
6. I am not ready for you to do that yet.
7. For a younger child, use distraction.
8. Ask, “What do you think you would need to do before I would be willing to say yes to that?”
9. Ask, “What do you think? Is this a good choice for you?” (If you choose to use this, make sure you are willing to abide by their answer.)
10. No, but I would be willing to...
11. Ask, “What are your other options?”
12. For a youngster who has something you don’t want her to have said, “That’s not a toy. However, this is a toy you can play with.”
13. I appreciate your asking, however...
14. Give them an alternative. “Walls are not for coloring. Here is a piece of paper.”
15. Tell them what to do instead i.e., “Water needs to stay in the tub.”
16. This is not negotiable.
17. Yes, as soon as (task) is done....
18. I’d love to, now's not an option, let's go put it on the calendar.